Government's notice in any Text Books prescribed by the private educational institutions in Kerala and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the NCERT or any other agencies recommended any qualitative changes in the existing Text Books in Kerala and whether any suggestions to delete any portion thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government had set up a Committee under the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) on Regulatory Mechanisms for Text books and Parallel Text books taught in schools outside the Government System. The Committee was chaired by Prof. Zoya Hasan and Prof. Gopal Guru. The Committee has recommended institution of a National Text book Council to monitor text books.

(c) In the course of its review of text books, the Committee studied textbooks in use in Kerala and eleven other States and has observed that a grave drawback of certain history textbooks is the exclusion of regional history. Regional history, society and cultures are virtually excluded or merely given a passing reference. The language used and visuals given in some of the text books are also loaded with gender biased messages.

(d) No, Sir.

Allahabad Agriculture Institute

2687. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Allahabad Agriculture Institute in Uttar Pradesh has been given the status of a Deemed University; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Allahabad Agricultural Institute, Allahabad was declared as a 'Deemed to be University' by the Government *vide* its notification dated 15.3.2000.